

In the Claims

1 - 8 (Cancelled).

505, 79.

(Currently Amended) A parking space locating system comprising:

at least one vehicle detector disposed proximately to an associated parking space and configured to output an occupied /vacant signal along with an associated space identifier according to whether said vehicle detector detects that a vehicle is present/absent in/from said associated parking space respectively;

a ~~processor system~~ central processor in communication with said at least one vehicle detector via at least one communication link;

wherein said ~~processor system~~ central processor is programmed to receive at least one of said occupied/vacancy signals along with said associated space identifiers and maintain an updated database of said occupied/vacant signals along with associated space identifiers,

wherein said ~~processor system~~ central processor integrates said database with geographical map data including a geographical area of said parking space(s) and generates a data structure which is capable of being displayed on a computer device screen as a graphical map, said graphical map having sufficient detail to distinguish individual parking spaces, wherein said occupied/vacant signal is indicated at a corresponding location on said graphical map;

an electronic street map

wherein said ~~processor system~~ central processor is further programmed and configured to quickly communicate updated graphical map data structures including updated occupied/vacant signal indication to a network.

10. (Original) The system according to claim 9 wherein said network comprises a publicly accessible network.

11. (Original) The system according to claim 9 wherein said network includes the internet.

12. (Original) The system according to claim 9 wherein said at least one vehicle detector is disposed in a parking meter.

13. (Original) The system according to claim 9 wherein said at least one communication link is an electrical transmission line.

14. (Original) The system according to claim 9 wherein said at least one communication link is a microwave link.

15. (Original) The system according to claim 9 wherein said at least one communication link is a fiber optic link.

16. (Original) The system according to claim 9 wherein said at least one vehicle detector is an ultrasonic metal detector.

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cont.
17. (Previously Presented) A method of notifying motorists of vacant parking space locations comprising the steps of:
detecting the presence or absence of a vehicle in at least one identifiable parking space;
generating a signal to represent the presence or absence of a vehicle in at said at least one identifiable parking space;
associating said signal with a respective space identifier;
interpreting said signal along with said respective space identifier as space identifier data;
integrating said space identifier data with digital street-map data describing an area including said at least one identifiable parking space to form an active street-map; and
communicating said active street-map to a network.

wherein said active street map
being interested by a standard
computer system.

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Original) The method according to claim 17 further comprising the steps of:
communicating said active street map to a mobile-accessible network;
determining a user's location using GPS information;
displaying an active-street map of an area including the user's position.

20. (Original) The method according to claim 17 further comprising the steps of:
periodically updating said active street-map by repeating said step of interpreting
said signal along with said respective space identifier as space identifier data; and
repeating said step of integrating said space identifier data with digital street-map
data describing an area including said at least one identifiable parking space to form an active
street-map.